Friday, December 28, 2007



BIG BANG: Vendors sell firecrackers on Quezon Avenue in Legazpi City to greet the New Year

Benazir Bhutto dies in suicide bombing

Attacker shoots her, then blows self up

RAWALPINDI, PAKISTAN—PAKISTANI opposition leader Benazir Bhutto was assassinated on Thursday, apparently after being shot and then attacked by a suicide bomber as she left a campaign rally, aides said. Twenty others were also killed.



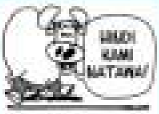
BHUTTO waves to her supporters during a campaign rally in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, moments before she was assassinated on Thursday. AP

Bounty for killer of Lintuan now P1M

Court says Palparan knew of abductions

BSP warns ATM users vs 'surfers'

Fired prisons chief claims innocence: Jalosjos fled



Nene slams ethnic slur on Visayans in Juday movie

BRIDGING THE DIGITAL GAP

Phone equipment worth $200M rusting in warehouses

(Second of three parts)

I-TEAM Report

Salug folk finally able to say hello to Graham Bell



A FARMER in Salug, Zamboanga del Norte, poses in front of a bank of telephones for the multibillion-peso Telepono sa Barangay project. Photo taken on Oct. 1.

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FrontPage



EZ2 | SIX DIGIT
15 23 | 4 4 4 8 5 1
SUERTRES
4 1 3 | 5 5 3
SUPERLOTTO 6/49
15 16 19 21 33 38
P42,987,166.20

Lim snubs AFP's 'Pen' probe

Lawyer says it will prejudice rebellion case

By Nikko Dizon

DETAINED ARMY BRIG. GEN. Danilo Lim yesterday refused to participate in a military inquiry into the Peninsula Manila takeover, saying it would prejudice his rebellion case pending before a Makati City court.



Lim

Truckloads of soldiers sound alarm for cops

By Nikko Dizon

Writ of amparo out for Jonas

By TJ Burgonio

'Terrorist' sheik freed

Feast of the Innocents still relevant today, says Church man







Fired prisons chief claims innocence

[illegible]

'Sacrificial lamb'

[illegible]

70 and above

[illegible]

'Ministerial' duty

[illegible]

'Waiver'

[illegible]

Prisoner inventory

[illegible]

The Daily Gospel

[illegible]

Benazir Bhutto dies

BSP warns ATM users

Republic of the Philippines

Congress of the Philippines

Metro Manila

Fourteenth Congress

First Regular Session

Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-third day of July, two thousand seven.

RULES OF PROCEDURE GOVERNING INQUIRIES IN AID OF LEGISLATION

Section 1. *Power to Conduct Inquiries.* –

Section 2. *Modes of Initiation.* –

Section 3. *Changing the Committee(s) Authorized or Directed to Conduct an Inquiry.* –

Section 4. *Conduct of Inquiry.* –

Section 5. *Joint Inquiry or Investigation.* –

Section 6. *Quorum.* –

Section 7. *Executive Sessions.* –

Section 8. *Attendance of Witnesses.* –

Section 9. *Rights and Duties of Witnesses.* –

Section 10. *Rights and Duties of Persons Affected by a Hearing.* –

Section 11. *Contempt.* –

Section 12. *Penalty.* –

Section 13. *Appearance of Counsel.* –

Section 14. *Safekeeping and Release of Record of Testimonies of Witnesses.* –

Section 15. *Termination of Inquiry.* –

Section 16. *Report of Committee.* –

Section 17. *Plenary Action on the Report.* –

Section 18. *Internal Rules.* –

Section 19. *Rules of Procedure and Evidence.* –

Section 20. *Effectivity.* –

Adopted,

JOSE DE VENECIA JR.
Speaker

ROBERTO P. NAZARENO
Secretary General

Atong Ang may yet get travel permit from court

By Jocelyn R. Uy

CHARLIE "ATONG" ANG MAY GET TO GIVE his daughter away in marriage in the United States after all.

Ang—on probation for two years after he was convicted of the lesser charge of corrupting a public official in the plunder case against deposed President Joseph Estrada—has gotten government lawyers to agree to let him fly to Las Vegas, Nevada, to attend his daughter Annaliza's wedding on Jan. 18.

The Office of the Special Prosecutor said it would raise no objection and yesterday filed a manifestation with the Sandiganbayan, pointing out the trip was "a matter" between Ang and his probation officer.

"The probation officer has, in fact, expressed (her) conformity with the urgent motion for Ang's travel to the US," the special prosecutor said.

Probation officer Doris Almonera, who has been supervising Ang the past seven months after he was convicted in May and who was present at the hearing, assured the court of Ang's "sincerity and candor."

Ang had asked the antigraft court to let him leave for Las Vegas on Jan. 5. He intends to be away 25 days.

Ang was a gambling crony of Estrada. Once, they were videotaped in a casino, a no-no for government officials since Estrada was Vice President at the time. Estrada himself was pardoned by President Macapagal-Arroyo in October after he was convicted of plunder.

But even if Ang were allowed to leave for Las Vegas by the court, he would still have to contend with the US government.

Yesterday, through his lawyer, Ruth Castelo, Ang informed the Sandiganbayan Special Division that he was awaiting word from the US Embassy in Manila on whether he—after his extradition from the United States last year—may renew his visa and reenter the country.

He also needs a new passport.

"While waiting for a reply from the US Embassy, Ang respectfully begs the court to allow him to apply for a passport considering it takes eight working days to process an electronic passport," Castelo said in her six-page manifestation.

To assure the court that he would return, Ang reiterated he was willing to post a P500,000 bond.

An unidentified friend has submitted to the court the title to a piece of property valued at P1.3 million to guarantee Ang would return, Castelo said.

Ang has twice been denied permission by the antigraft court to travel to Cambodia where a lottery firm was interested in hiring him as a consultant.

Sumilao farmers hit San Miguel bid to discredit them

Their money, our rights

Honoring Adrian Cristobal

'Breakfast table'

year-end clearance sale

end the year with big savings of up to

50% OFF

December 26 - January 2

apparel • bags & luggage • shoes • baby essentials • home furnishings • fashion accessories • toys and games • stationery

We've got it all for you!

SM DEPARTMENT STORE

MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PIÑAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • MANDURRIAO • CEBU • DAVAO • CAGAYAN DE ORO • BICUTAN • LUCENA • BAGUIO • MARILAO • DASMARIÑAS • BATANGAS • DELGADO • SAN LAZARO • SUCAT • STA ROSA • CLARK • MALL OF ASIA • LIPA • BACOLOD • TAYTAY

INQUIRER

OPINION

Not innocent

EDITORIAL



Send Jalosjos back to Muntinlupa

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

When malls replace public parks

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

Perils facing journalists undiminished



ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

Cycles



PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

Surprises at the movies



AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

A feast of pork and fish



LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

'Uncouth, thick-faced' teachers

SSS' slow response due to manual verification

5th in year 2007, 54th in 7 years

Bush's duplicity exposed by NIE

Incredible praise from king of Spain

Can't be any better without English

More than enough reason to resign

Across the NATION

Ping seeks probe of Asean meet deals

SEN. PANFILO "PING" LACSON WILL FILE TODAY a Senate resolution seeking an immediate investigation of the P3.5 billion in government money "squandered" for the overpriced construction of the Cebu International Convention Center (CICC) which was rushed for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) summit last January.

[illegible]

Slain UN worker remembered for selflessness

[illegible]

Newsbriefs

Korean couple slain

[illegible]

Dengue up in E. Visayas

[illegible]

Cop execs face probe

[illegible]

Salug folk finally able to say hello to Graham Bell



Fax messages

Few takers

Outdated system

Phones never rang

Phone equipment worth $200M rusting . . .



Overprice

Phone cards

Silence of the graveyard

Deal gone sour

Dismal track record

Timeline: Telepono sa Barangay

TSB is implemented.

Palparan: There's no such policy; those are only perceptions

Praise from President

Melo Commission

Two missing UP students

Court says Palparan knew of abductions

TRO from Supreme Court

Palparan met with Raymond

Provost Marshal's superficial effort



PALPARAN

Produce records

Beyond Esperon's control

IN THE KNOW

Justice Lucas Bersamin

Bounty for killer of Lintuan now P1M

Nene slams ethnic slur on Visayans in Juday movie

Thank you, sir

MTRCB slammed

Offensive scene


Buddy

Aplus METRO
Editor: Rosan C. Dipasupil
Send us your feedback: Inquirer text service/get help message to 2307 (Globe) or 288 (Smart) E-mail: [illegible]

DID YOU KNOW

FOURTEEN people were killed and 91 were wounded in simultaneous bomb explosions in different parts of Metro Manila on Dec. 30, 2000. The targets included a Light Rail Transit coach, Plaza Ferguson in front of the US Embassy in Manila, an abandoned gasoline station in Makati City, a passenger bus in Cubao, Quezon City, and the cargo handling section of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Pasay City. Captured in 2002 for illegal possession of explosives was Jemaah Islamiyah member Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi, an Indonesian who admitted funding the attacks. He was sentenced in April 2002 to 12 years in prison, but escaped in 2003 from with two suspected Abu Sayyaf members. They were later killed by soldiers. *—Inquirer Research*

Housing firm to appeal court ruling

Ayala says patented building technology taken from foreign companies

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

AVIDA LAND CORP., THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING arm of property giant Ayala Land Inc. (ALI), will file an appeal if a trial court orders it to pay P140 million in damages to inventor Edgardo Vazquez for alleged breach of patent rights.

ALI corporate spokesperson and deputy compliance officer [illegible] Reyes said, in a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, that ALI would pursue "all available appellate remedies to protect its rights and interests" if the decision of the Quezon City regional trial court was confirmed to be adverse to the company.

In his decision, a copy of which was obtained by the media, Judge Reynaldo Daway of Quezon City Regional Trial Court Branch 90 ordered Avida to pay Vazquez, president of Vazquez Building Systems Inc., more than P99 million as "temporary damages or reasonable royalty with interest of six percent per annum from the time the infringement case was filed."

The judge also directed Avida to stop immediately the use of "[illegible] technology" in its housing projects.

Reyes said Avida learned of the court ruling from press reports as of yesterday morning. Avida had not received an official copy of the court decision, he added.

"Therefore, Avida is not in a position to comment on the ruling's [illegible] or merits," Reyes said, adding that Avida strongly believed it did not copy any patent held by Vazquez.

In constructing its modular houses, Reyes said Avida relied on patented technology licensed to it by two foreign companies.

The technology offered by British-based Tex Holdings Plc. is covered by Philippine Patent No. [illegible] issued in 1997, he added.

Another technology, the "Pronto" System offered by French company Mason [illegible] SA, is covered by Philippine Patent No. [illegible] issued in 1996.

Avida said both technologies were also patented abroad.

"These two systems involve building processes and end products that are different from the housing unit described in Mr. Vazquez's patent," Reyes said.

Vazquez sued Avida in 1999 for allegedly copying the process of assembling an exterior wall structure of a modular housing unit that he patented in 1996.

Avida allegedly copied Vazquez's columns featuring H-shaped sections and wall panels for the Sta. Isabel Village in Lucena City in Quezon province.

The complainant asked for P300 million in damages.

Avida denied the accusations, saying it used the modular building system of British firm Tex Holdings Plc. and French builder Mason [illegible] SA.

In his decision, Daway said the columns and concrete wall panels Avida used in its housing projects in Tayabas, Quezon; Naga City; Sto. Tomas, Batangas; Trece Martires, Cavite and Cebu City were "substantially similar or identical in appearance and construction" to Vazquez's invention.

Daway also noted that the differences or dissimilarities in design "can hardly be noticed."



NEW TOYS FOR THE NEW YEAR. Three sisters enjoy a perfect day at Manila's Rizal Park playing with their new toys.

4 Metro cities launch drive vs firecrackers

By Kristine Alave and Julie M. Aurelio

FOUR CITIES IN METRO Manila are helping the health department's campaign to reduce the number of New Year's Eve casualties by regulating, even banning, the use of firecrackers.

The cities of Pasig and Marikina have banned large and dangerous firecrackers, especially on New Year's Eve, to reduce the number of injuries and deaths resulting from its use.

San Juan City on the other hand, intensified its campaign against illegal and dangerous fireworks.

There will be only sparklers and fountains, no superlolo or pla-pla, [illegible]

[illegible]

Ayala-Makati Avenues closed to traffic tonight

By Julie M. Aurelio

PARTS OF AYALA AND MAKATI Avenues will be closed to traffic beginning at 11 tonight as Makati City prepares for the annual New Year's Eve countdown.

[illegible]

Resort owner killed in QC

METROBRIEFS

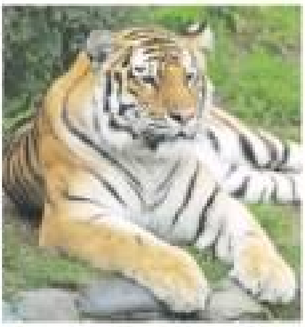
Car theft charges filed vs 9 Manila cops

Chiro youth group marks 50th year

Japan to amend textbook entries on Okinawa's WWII mass suicides

Turkish planes strike rebels in northern Iraq

Indonesia landslide victims pulled from mud after rains



TATIANA, a Siberian tiger that killed one person and injured two others, is seen in an undated photo. It was later shot dead.

San Fo cops look for clues on how zoo tiger escaped

Prominent deaths of 2007

Politics



PAVAROTTI

Culture

Business

Vietnam boy dies of bird flu

The WORLD

Afghanistan expels EU, UN officials

KABUL—A SENIOR UNITED NATIONS OFFICIAL and another from the European Union left Afghanistan on Thursday after the government ordered their expulsion, accusing both of holding talks with the Taliban and for paying cash to the group.

The expulsions have caused a diplomatic row between the government and key aid agencies who fear the loss of two such experienced Afghan hands would hinder reconstruction and development efforts.

United Nations spokesperson Aleem Siddique said the UN staffer had left on Thursday morning on a regular chartered flight to neighboring Pakistan. Diplomats in Kabul confirmed the EU official, the mission's acting head, had been on the same flight.

While neither organization has formally named the pair, it is common knowledge in the capital that they are Michael Semple and Mervyn Patterson, who have lived and worked in Afghanistan for more than a decade—even during the rule of the Taliban that was toppled by the US-led invasion in 2001.

Semple is British and Patterson Irish.

The Afghan government declared the pair persona non grata after accusing them of meeting Taliban officials last week in troubled southern Helmand province, a bastion for the insurgency and the main drug-producing region of Afghanistan.

EU and UN officials insist the pair were meeting only local elders and the whole affair was a "misunderstanding."

"As part of our efforts in Helmand province we need to be speaking to people on the ground," Siddique said.

"We are dealing with a very complex situation here in Afghanistan. Tribal communities and tribal relationships are a very complex web."

Afghan officials stood by the expulsions on Thursday.

"We are acting on the basis of our national interests. The two sides (EU and the UN) have agreed that they should go," one official told Reuters.

Aid organizations and analysts say the biggest threat to humanitarian work in the country has been the growing Taliban insurgency, fueled by the region's vast drug trade, and that the only way to stop it is with the cooperation of tribal elders and leaders.

Frequently this involves offering lucrative supply and development opportunities to local leaders in exchange for cooperation on projects. Often the lines are blurred between who is a Taliban member, Taliban sympathizer or those merely hostile to the central government and foreigners. *Reuters*



WHAT'S INSIDE

Marcelo tops Asian kart series /A23

SPORTS



Parker stars as Spurs send Bulls reeling /A24



Hapee cagers a win from joyous sweep

THE PHENOMENAL RUN ALMOST CAME TO AN END.

Strong RP team to Asian chessfest

Pumaren, Lim keen on UAAP-NCAA caging merger

P1.8-M Clark Int'l Marathon unfurls Jan. 13



STA. LUCIA big man Marlou Aquino tries to put up a shot off Talk 'N Text's Khalid Ferreira and Jay Washington in a recent game.

Realtors out to keep No. 2 vs Dragons

Juvic slowly steps out of Frankie's shadow



SPORTSWATCH

San Mig Coffee senior golf final leg today at Villamor

'Bagong Taon' derby today

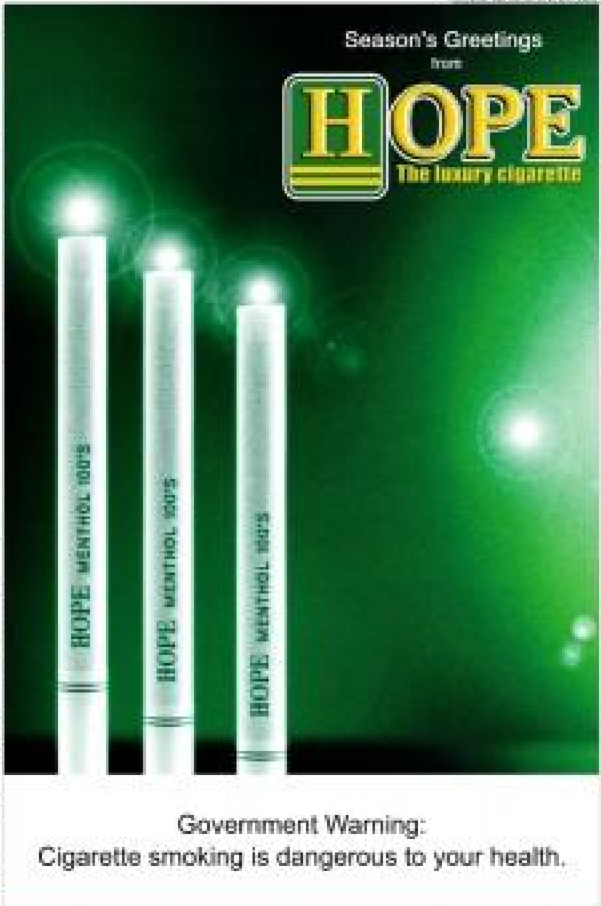


GREEN OVER BLUE THREE IN A ROW

John Hay Chairman's Cup golf gets going today



Marcelo tops Asian kart series





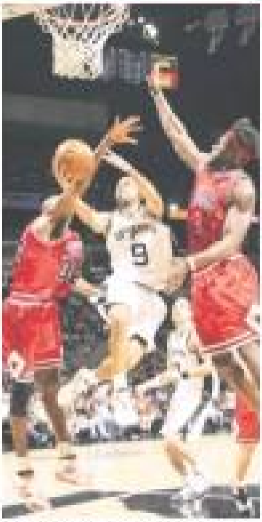
SPORTS

Parker stars as Spurs send Bulls reeling

SAN ANTONIO—TONY PARKER SCORED 28 POINTS WEDNESDAY AS the San Antonio Spurs downed the struggling Chicago Bulls, 94-79, in a National Basketball Association contest Wednesday.

[illegible]

AFP



SPURS' Tony Parker challenges the defense of Joe Smith (left) and Ben Wallace of the Chicago Bulls Wednesday. AFP

Serbians No. 1 Hopman Cup pick

PERTH, AUSTRALIA—SERBIA WILL GO into the Hopman Cup as firm favorites when the tournament starts in Perth on Saturday, [illegible]

[illegible]

AFP

Wild Oats heads for 3rd win in a row

HOBART, AUSTRALIA—[illegible]

AFP

BUSINESS

$3.3-B MRT-7 project approved

Biggest infrastructure deal gets Neda green light

THE GOVERNMENT YESterday gave the green light to the long-delayed Metro Rail Transit Phase 7 (MRT-7) [illegible]

IN THIS ISSUE

Agriculture makes a comeback in '07

(First of two parts)

YEARENDER

[illegible]

Five-point agenda

[illegible]

CURRENCIES

STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX

Shares close 1.5% higher

[illegible]



Laughs, for a change

Corporate Securities Info



Raul J. Palabrica

Vista Land upbeat on 2008 prospects

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

Currencies

Mobile phone mart still growing

By Riza T. Olchondra

THE MOBILE MARKET STILL HAS ROOM to grow, according to telecommunications companies.

Apparently, the low-income bracket has remained largely untapped and the potential new market could drive the mobile penetration rate to as high as 75 percent two years from now.

"It is the low-income bracket that remains largely untapped, those with yearly incomes of $500 to $2,000. This represents a potential new market of between 15 and 20 million customers," said Manuel Pangilinan, chair of the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company (PLDT), the country's largest telecommunications firm.

Pangilinan's take on the market affirms Napoleon Nazareno, president of PLDT's cellular unit Smart Communications Inc., who earlier said that the mobile penetration rate could reach 75 percent by 2010.

Globe Telecom Inc. president Gerardo Ablaza was more conservative, projecting that the penetration rate would reach only about 60 percent.

Despite giving differing figures, the top two telcos agreed that the increasing number of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) makes mobile phones necessary to maintain contact.

Lower-priced handsets and promo offerings are also encouraging new subscribers.







BUSINESS Friday

MIDDLE-CLASS CONSUMER REVOLUTION

Modern women a leading force in China



VISITORS walk under Christmas decorations at a shopping mall in Hong Kong.

How middle class emerged

Profile of middle class

Importance of property ownership

Personal investment and insurance

Middle class aspirations

FEATURES IN BRIEF

Website for women entrepreneurs

Educating educators on wellness

Vidres.net wins Quill Award

Coco coir : A new gold mine from coconut husks

Sumilao formula: 3 S's and 5 P's

COMMENTARY

[illegible]

Purpose

[illegible]

Process

[illegible]

Product

[illegible]

Peace and Prosperity

[illegible]

Agriculture makes a comeback in '07

[illegible]

GMA programs

[illegible]

New markets

[illegible]

Gov't cuts BOC collection goal

2008 target now down by ₱19 billion to ₱235.68B

Strong peso stunts export growth this year

$3.3-B MRT

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

John 14:6

PACIFICO Ll. MAYOR

Dr. Teresita "Telly" Casaclang Perez

DEATH NOTICE

NELSON ABEL DY LOA

Secretary Arturo D. Brion

and the Officials and Staff of the

Department of Labor and Employment

express their deepest condolences
to the family and friends
of

Adrian E. Cristobal, Sr.

Former Labor Secretary, SSS Chairman,
Presidential Spokesman, Academician, Publisher,
Journalist, and Writer

who joined our Creator last December 22, 2007
at the age of 79.
A funeral mass is scheduled at the
Santuario de San Antonio
in Forbes Park, Makati City
on December 28, 2007.

The entire DOLE Family mourns the passing away
of one of the country's greatest intellectuals
and devoted public servant, and asks everyone
to offer prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

CLASSIFIEDS

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S)

NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION

AN INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Restore 08 Judiciary's Budget

NOTICE OF LOSS

BUYING

ROLEX

More Classifieds Ads on pages

Bureau of Internal Revenue - A18
Dep-ED Zamboanga - A18
Development Bank of the Philippines - B6
Supreme Court of the Philippines - B6
Surigao Del Sur Electric Cooperative - B6

Business

Manufacturing posts year-on-year drop in output

Production volume slips 1.7% in Oct.

Dutch bank sees rosier '08 for RP

Gov't responds to debate on food vs fuel

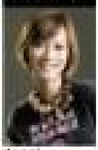
FASHION

LIFESTYLE



Who's afraid of the big bad girl?

Mabuhay!



Jenni Epperson



If you want to break out of the Little Black Dress mold, make the party guests blush with an LRD (little red dress)



DRESS by Lyle Rodas [illegible]; gloves by Caroline's; ring by Aldo; sunglasses [illegible]; shoes by Aldo



DRESS by Jon Herrera [illegible]; gloves by Caroline's; [illegible] shoes by Aldo

Who's afraid of the big bad girl?



BOLERO and dress by Puey Quiñones; bangles from House of Laurel; shoes by Aldo

From page C1

I suggest that if you want to break out of the Little Black Dress mold, make the party guests blush with an LRD (little red dress).

In this fashion spread inspired by the classic fairytale "Little Red Riding Hood," with dresses from Puey Quiñones, Ronaldo Arnaldo, Dana Sol, Lyle Rodas, Jon Herrera and Charina Sarte, [illegible] passionate red stands out in beautiful, structured dresses.

Red, red lipstick instantly ramps up a classic LRD as well, and adds a powerful statement to an otherwise pristine white dress. Inspired pieces or accessories supercharge the party spectrum—satin gloves, sky-high, patent peep-toe shoes, and, of course, skin sparklers for that added bling.

Honorable mention goes to [illegible] feather and [illegible] featured here, which magically makes any outfit [illegible].

Versatility is a crucial component this season. A little creativity with mixing and matching can get you far all into February. But more than simply a change in shapes and hemlines, the biggest change to celebrate this coming year should be you—a better perspective, a more positive outlook, greater glamour.

Now that is more than enough reason to party!

E-mail the author at [illegible]

Photography [illegible]
Styling [illegible]
Makeup [illegible]
Hair [illegible]
Model [illegible]



CAPE by Puey Quiñones [illegible]; gloves from Caroline's; [illegible] and ring by [illegible], all from House of Laurel



DRESS by Charina Sarte [illegible]; brooch and ring by [illegible] from House of Laurel; bag by [illegible]

FASHION FORUM FASHION FORUM

What's your style resolution for 2008?



[illegible]





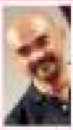
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[illegible]

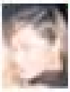


[illegible]



[illegible]





[illegible]



[illegible]



[illegible]





[illegible]



[illegible]



[illegible]





[illegible]



SMART GOLD
END YOUR SEARCH FOR THE BEST 3 IN 1 DEAL.
3 postpaid lines under 1 plan. Better handsets. Stronger network.
Enjoy calls within your GOLD Trio Plan for only ₱4.00/min.
GOLD TRIO PLAN 800
Choose any combination of 3 from these colored-screen handsets.
GOLD TRIO PLAN 1200
Get a camera phone with any Package. Choose Package 4 and you get 3G and Bluetooth connectivity with the LG KU250.
Also available:
GOLD TRIO PLAN 500
Get 3 Nokia 1110i phones
COMMUNICATIONS
SMART
THE POWER TO LEAD


FASHION
LIFESTYLE
Sparkle and Shine







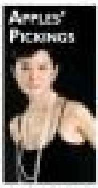
The year that was in fashion





Never has the local scene seemed more interesting and promising

Apples' Pickings



Apples Aberin-Sudhwani

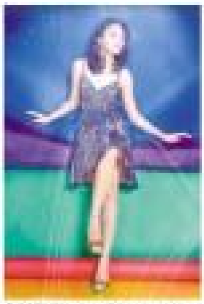




Sparkle and shine



For the incoming year's celebration, ditch the polka dots and go for glitz instead









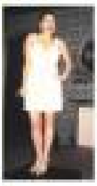

I'm NOT A Plastic bag




MYTH








36th Anniversary
Christmas SALE!
SANYO
VIZON
CASH
12 MONTHS
24 MONTHS
LESS P20,000
P106,995
LESS P8,000
P1,903.75
P1,028.80
ABSOLUTELY FREE
VPC-S700
digital camera
LESS P15,000
LESS P6,000
P1,557.60
P836.49
P86,995
HOME UPGRADES!
A
B
C
LESS P8,000
LESS P4,000
P942.21
P509.56
P52,995
P19,995
P9,995
P9,495
P10,995
BEST BUY!
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NATIONWIDE

LIFESTYLE

LIFE-STYLED
Thelma Sioson San Juan

2007: The year of independent designers



Fashion designers have set up their own mall shops and accessories designers carved a niche in the global market

Designers



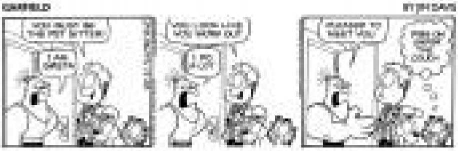
A. LIPIN



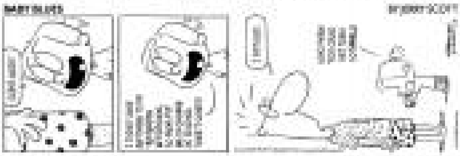
PUGAD BABOY — BY PM JUNIOR

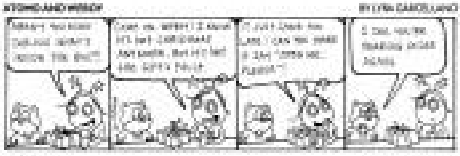


GARFIELD — BY JIM DAVIS



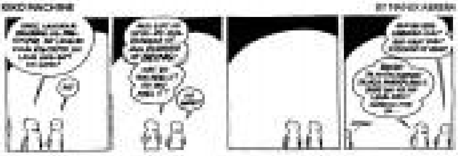
BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT



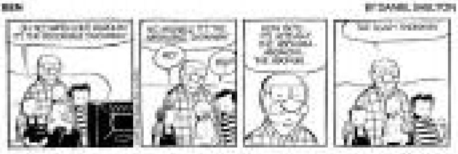




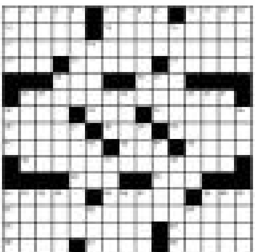
KIKO MACHINE



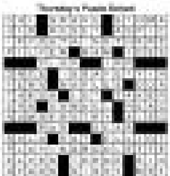
BEN



DAILY CROSSWORD



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved



HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku — By Dave Green

	8	2						7
7			5					
6			3			1		
	1	9			2			
				3				
			4			8	3	
		6			3			2
					1			5
2						6	7	

Difficulty Level ★★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle







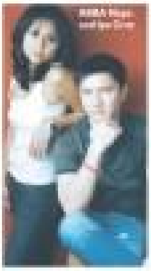












Some fashionable causes and the rest













WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Christmas fund-raiser

Top of the night













Fashion ideas for New Year



ROBINSONS DEPARTMENT STORE (RDS) gives you a sneak peek on 2008's hottest color choices so you can start the New Year with a big fashion bang.

Purple. Subtle shades of purple will create a rich combination especially when matched with pearl, lavender or ethereal rose neutrals. Be dazzled in purple spaghetti strapped dress. For men, a purple and black striped print polo and pinstriped pants is a good ensemble. A purple shirt dress with gold prints, meanwhile, shows allure and seduction.

Green. Green is the symbol of prosperity, lending freshness and unspoiled beauty. So take the lead in the fashion landscape by wearing a green-hued dress that reflects a cool and natural feel. Florals and foliage with an art nouveau look are hot. Green, when accented with sunny yellows, berry reds, mint, grass green or other natural shades (like a khaki long-sleeved polo over a green checkered polo shirt and denim pants) is a sure winner.

Brown and beige. From camel, leather to rust, walnut and pumpkin, shades of brown and beige will provide a chic, comfortable mood. Big this coming year are the colors of stone and earth coordinated with softer, more luminous tones such as sky blues or sea greens. Khaki pants and brown polo will dominate the guys' scene. Muted brown-y hues such as beige will also be big on girls. A cream dress with rosette design, paired with earthy browns and basic green bangles, will make a sophisticated yet urban look.

Rust and orange. These two hues help create a fusion of 'warm and cool colors, neutral shades and "brights," and various textures and sheens, including town coats and cinnamon. Wear your paisley print dress and top it off with pearlescent accessories. A rust brown striped polo for guys or an orange shirt dress matched with a long neon green necklace for women will be a great pair for your first party of the year.

Black, gray and white. Reminiscent of the cinema of the forties yet done with a contemporary flair, being in black, white or gray inspires a certain elegance. It can also be cool, sleek and contemporary. A white sweater vest, gray long-sleeved polo and gray slacks are classic examples. A sheer black dress over white dress, accented with a long bejeweled bead necklace, will suggest couture allure or a soft inviting look. Return to elegant dressing with a black and silver polka dotted dress and silver gray, ash or ivory bangles and create a dramatic interplay of light and dark.

ON HER: Paisley print dress and bejeweled bangle. On him: Striped polo. On her: Orange shirt dress and long neon green necklace



ON HIM: White sweater vest, gray long-sleeve polo and gray slacks. On her: Sheer black dress over white dress and black long necklace. On her: Black and silver polka dotted dress and silver bangles



ON HER: Cream dress with rosette design, bejeweled and brown plastic bangles



ON HER: Purple spaghetti-strap printed dress and long necklace. On him: Purple and black striped print polo and pinstriped pants. On her: Purple shirt dress with gold design

2007, year . . .

From page E1

only get more surreal. (Oh my, I sound like Gary Quiñinor possessed by Jaime Licauco.)

Leila Tan Gan: Very tough year. I felt being pushed off my pedestal. Try to solve it patiently, like untangling a multiple knot. The good side... I also met many kind, helpful friends.

Abe Florendo: 2007, silly old fool that I am, being up on Chinese numerology [illegible] lucky number 7 and the sum of it, which makes by one digit the lucky number 8 in Chinese divination. That one-digit sum made the difference between the lucky and the non-lucky in my life in 2007. What the heck, non-lucky is good enough for me. God, or the universe, is famously stingy when it comes to doling (or is that dealing?) out luck or blessings. So what do I remember best of 2007? I certainly considered getting married, [illegible] good thing, I woke up one morning and while brushing my teeth I realized that marriage would be a worse tragedy than dying. Two, I almost died. Two years ago I smashed my kneecap when the car I was riding in veered off the road and hit a huge, impressive tree. In 2007 I broke my back [illegible] when I slipped on a wet slab [illegible]. So I thought, that [illegible]. There, I survived 2007, whole and sane and full of humor, and finished my eighth book. A miracle, considering that young soldiers, for the manner of reasons, were dying.

Lia Bernardo: '07 was a year of spiritual, professional and personal growth, a lot of changes and new experiences. Some were easy, most were difficult but it really led to growth. I'm so grateful that everything just seemed to fall in place, especially my personal life.

Louie Cruz: The greatest pleasure I had in '07 was Asian Dragon magazine, as my brainchild, I traveled to another country and discovered a new exciting world without having left the Philippines.

Henri Cataguig: It's been a good and blessed year. I have no complaints. I'm so thankful for I had spent little time with "mother" Ernest (Sandiego).

LIFESTYLE





NICOLE Scherzinger at the Bench Body photo shoot at the Quixote Studio in Sta. Monica, Los Angeles

Purrfect Nicole

Like a true Bench Body icon, Pussycat Doll Nicole Scherzinger shows the world that she can fly solo

EVER FEEL THE need to express yourself freely and show the many sides of your vibrant personality?

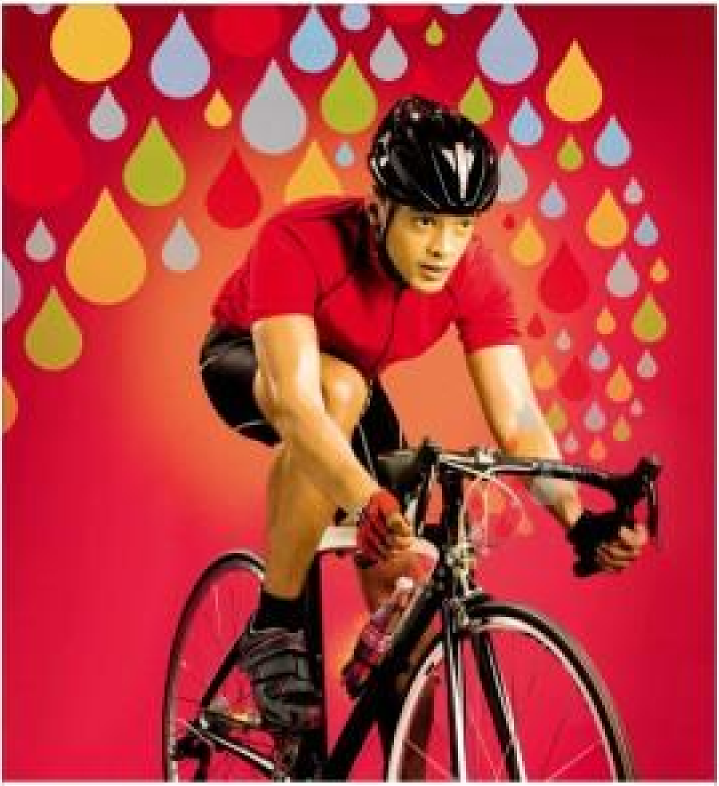
Bench Body's latest collection allows you to do exactly that.

And who better to represent Bench Body but a woman who exemplifies a "dynamic nature." Pussycat Doll Nicole Scherzinger joins Bench's list of well-known personalities who have graced its many campaigns. Known worldwide as the lead singer of the

PURRFECT F4



GETTING prepped and dolled up





EFREN OCAMPO gives new elegance to the iconic little black dress with draping and ostrich feathers. Fashioned mostly from chiffon materials, the dress gently cascades down the body giving it a "simple yet elegant look." "This is one LBD that will stand out in any holiday party."







CESAR GAUPO stays close to his celebrated maxim with simple, understated and clean looks. His collection of jersey dresses is filled with surprises that emerge from various silhouettes and dramatic draping. "I want my clothes to be very feminine," said Gaupo. "But I also like them to be playful and very wearable."



Elegant and glamorous staples

Cesar Gaupo, Efren Ocampo, Lulu Tan Gan and Mike de la Rosa have long defined glamour and elegance at SM. Going beyond the holidays and onto the New Year, they continue to cast their fashion spell with timeless and tastefully crafted clothes for the modern woman



MIKE DE LA ROSA takes the vintage route with rich velvet and rustling taffeta outfits as well as A-line and trapeze dresses that capture the drama of the '60s. These make the dramatic entrances anywhere, anytime.





LULU TAN GAN'S looks evoke the gilded age with touches of gold and bronze in glitzy sequins. But the knit queen remains simple and practical. "Elegance should not be loud," she said, adding that "halter tops, tunics, shrugs, wraps, and pants are easy to mix and match."



Goings On

Two reunions

The Acebes Mellilo Mcdonald Familia clan will have a grand reunion on Dec. 31 at the ancestral home of the Mellilo clan on J.Ly Street, Bansalan, Davao del Sur. The clan that includes members from Germany, Switzerland and Australia will have a tree planting activity on Acebes Mellilo Road, named after Bansalan's first barrio lieutenant who established the first primary school, Catholic church and wet market. Botanist professor Sangeus S. Bindia (tel. 387 1632) will conduct a seminar on plant pots. Meanwhile, the Association of Bansalanon Worldwide headed by Netherlands-based Lolit Noel

Bayanon held a mission to help promote Bansalan as a tourist destination. With the support of Mayor Edwin Reyes, it aims to help indigent children through a literacy program.

PROMO. Renaissance Makati City Hotel, Manila bids farewell to its Coffee Shop with "Flavors of '84," a three-day promo, Dec. 28-30. The promo includes breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets, plus some more selections and beverages. The Coffee Shop will close its doors and will transform into an all-day dining restaurant. The grand opening for the restaurant and the new lobby lounge is slated for the second quarter of 2008. Call 811-6888.



FIFA PRESIDENT IN MANILA
Joseph Blatter (center), president of the Federation Internationale de Football Association (Fifa), was recently welcomed in Manila by Sofitel Philippine Plaza general manager Bernd Schneider (left) and Philippine Football Federation (PFF) president Jose Mari Martinez. Blatter was in the Philippines as part of the centennial celebration of the federation. Sofitel Philippine Plaza was the official residence of the Fifa delegation. Blatter also visited Tuloy sa Don Bosco Children's Village where PFF organized a special youth tournament for street children.

BEAUTY



Bodycare products are practical and inexpensive gifts

Clutter-free New Year's gifts

MAKEOVER 911









New Year, new loot



KNOCKOUT!



Before the year ends, check which products on your dresser should be thrown out

Purrfect Nicole



From page F1

all-female band famed for such hits as "Don't Cha," "Buttons" and "Stickwitu," she's also about to launch her own album. Like a true Bench Body icon, Nicole is set to show the world that she can also fly solo.

Gifted with a gorgeous face and a beautiful voice, Nicole also stands out because of her stunning dance moves.

Her beauty is in full display in Bench Body's latest campaign. Shot at the Quixote Studio north of Sta. Monica, Los Angeles, the photos show another side of Nicole. Clad in a stylish and good-fitting V-neck strap tee and low-rise bikini, she looks simple, soft, and sweet but sexy and confident.

Nicole, who is of Filipino descent (with a Filipino father and a Hawaiian-Russian mother), is a true professional and a delight to work with. During the shoot, she was prompt, open and very pleasant, not at all demanding. She moves with such ease, making it so easy for the Bench team to direct her.

Bench Body outlets are located in Glorietta, SM Megamall, SM Manila, Shilang Town Center, Robinsons Ermita, SM Bacoor, SM Fairview, SM Pampanga, SM Lucena, SM Dasmariñas Cavite, SM Cavite, Robinsons Galleria, SM Baguio and SM North Edsa.

NICOLE Scherzinger dons a stylish and well-fitted V-neck strap tee and low-rise bikini, both by Bench Body.



Salon for real dolls



ENTERTAINMENT

MMFF's first-day high

THE TOP THREE EARNERS ON THE FIRST DAY (DEC. 25) OF the Metro Manila Film Festival: "Enteng Kabisote 4," "Sakal, Sakali, Saklolo," "Shake, Rattle and Roll 9." The "unofficial figures" were provided by MMFF executive committee member, who added that opening day posted a total in box-office receipts. See related story on Page G3.





MARIAN Rivera, star of "Desperadas"

CHRISTOPHER de Leon



VIC SOTTO in "Enteng Kabisote 4"



BONG REVILLA in "Resiklo"

INSIDE

- Meeting 'the Pope' and Enteng at the festival parade /G3
- Our most fascinating interviews of 2007 Only In Hollywood /G2

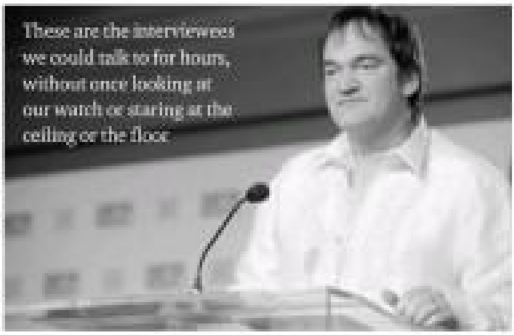
Most fascinating interviews of 2007

LOS ANGELES—ANGELINA Jolie and Francis Ford Coppola are among those who made it to our annual list of most fascinating interviews.

Only in Hollywood



Ruben V. Nepales



Francis Ford Coppola



Javier Bardem

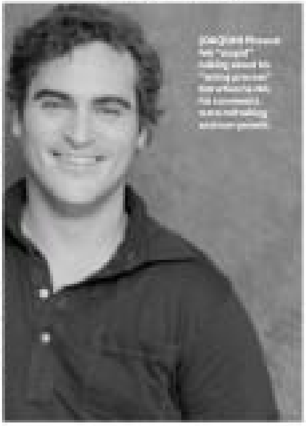
Angelina Jolie



Quentin Tarantino



Joaquin Phoenix





"Anino" by Raymond Red

French fest to show short films from RP



"Kagat ng Dilim" by Cesar Hernando

NINE FILIPINO SHORT FILMS will be shown in the Asian Panorama section of the 30th Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival in France, Feb. 1-9, 2008.

Clermont-Ferrand is regarded as "the Cannes of short film festivals."

Other participating countries from the region are Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The Filipino short films are: Raymond Red's "Anino," Mes de Guzman's "Batang Trapo," Cesar Hernando's "Kagat ng Dilim," Neil Fernandez's "Good Bird," Lawrence Fajardo's "Kalsada," Mark V. Reyes' "Last Full Show," Jerik Cagamat's "Patol," John Torres' "Salat" and Jet de la Cruz's "Mighty Boys."

"Anino" is about a commercial photographer whose camera is stolen by a street urchin. It stars Ronnie Lazaro, John Arcilla and Eddie Garcia. It is the first Filipino film to win the prestigious Palme d'Or (Golden Palm) for short films award at the Cannes International Film Festival in 2000. Red has made other short films that have been exhibited and praised in many screenings in Europe, Asia and America.

"Batang Trapo" is about two siblings who sell rags to vehicle drivers. It won the [illegible] prize at the Marrakech Film Festival in 2005. De Guzman has won Palanca awards for Literature and made "Ang Daan Patungong Kalimugtong," a full-length film that recently won Best Picture at the Cine de Los Pueblos del Sur in Venezuela.

"Kagat ng Dilim" is based on a true account about a group of

TURN TO G4





"Batang Trapo" by Mes De Guzman

New female leads' 'breakout' performances recalled

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre



If she plays her cards right, Katherine Heigl could end up as a major film star as early as next year

Acutely believable

Like a burst of fireworks

French fest ...





AT THE CINEMAS

GLORIETTA 1

GLORIETTA 4

GREENBELT 1

GREENBELT 3

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

AYALA CENTER CEBU

MARKET! MARKET!

TRINOMA

AT THE MALLS











Float, sink or swim

Highs and lows at the annual festival parade





Katie Holmes: I haven't changed; I'm really happy

Lost, jailed



Power team

Top of the talk shows



Quote of the week



Suspense, murder, mystery as Hallmark, MGM start new year

CLICK!



HALLMARK CHANNEL KICKS OFF 2008 with some nice premieres of suspense, murder and mystery movies.

In "Restitution" on Jan. 4, 4 p.m., New York City journalist Sabrina (Samantha Mathis) is



"RESTITUTION"

sent back to her hometown to investigate the story of Hans Hansen, a [illegible] man who claims responsibility for a series of [illegible].

Her lack of faith and stubborn refusal to believe [illegible] her to prove that the miracles are a hoax.

On Jan. 11 at 11 p.m., "Break In" features newlyweds Cameron (Todd Babcock) and Marla (Kelly Carlson) whose honeymoon takes a turn for the worst when three intruders break into the luxury villa, holding the couple in captivity.

On top of that, an approaching hurricane [illegible] stranded in the island with their captors.

Animation films

Wallace and his loyal dog race to prevent a



"WALLACE & Gromit"

monstrous [illegible] from [illegible] the town's vegetable harvest before their annual vegetable competition in HBO's "Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit" at 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. today.

On Dec. 31 at 1 p.m., "Over The Hedge" stars Bruce Willis, Steve Carell and Avril Lavigne who lend their voices to adorable woodland creatures.

When a bunch of forest animals awake from hibernation to find their natural habitat altered and cut off by a tall hedge, a raccoon named RJ hatches a plan to lead the starving animals over the hedge to gather food from their new human neighbors' garbage cans.

'Gorky Park'

In "Gorky Park," airing on MGM Channel Jan. 19, 9 p.m., three mutilated bodies are found in Moscow's Gorky Park. It's up to Russian police officer Arkady Renko to find the murderer.



From the best-selling mystery novel by Martin Cruz Smith, the movie stars William Hurt, Lee Marvin and Joanna Pacula. Michael Apted directs.

Tales of bravery

In January, Discovery Channel's new docu-drama series "Fire Heroes" showcases the in-



"Fire Heroes"

credible courage of people who act in life-threatening situations.

Featuring dramatic reenactments and expert analysis, it looks at the situations from both the heroes' and the experts' points of view.

The series, which airs Mondays starting Jan. 7, 11 p.m., features the episodes [illegible]

LIVING Stars



'Grey's Anatomy' star weds

[illegible]



STAR BABY

NATALIE GRACE LAUCHENGCO

[illegible]



FAVORITE NOOKS

VICKY MORALES

[illegible]



ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

GALLERIA

1 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO – THX
2 ENTENG KABISOTE 4
3 RESIKLO
4 KATAS ng SAUDI
5 BAHAY KUBO
6 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9
7 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
8 ENTENG KABISOTE 4
9 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
10 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9

ERMITA

1 RESIKLO
2 ENTENG KABISOTE 4
3 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
4 KATAS ng SAUDI
5 ENTENG KABISOTE 4
6 BAHAY KUBO
7 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9
1 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9
2 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
3 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO

METRO EAST

1 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9
2 BAHAY KUBO
3 SAKAL SAKALI SAKALO
4 RESIKLO
5 ENTENG KABISOTE 4
6 KATAS ng SAUDI
7 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
8 ENTENG KABISOTE 4

NOVALICHES

1 RESIKLO
2 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
3 BAHAY KUBO
4 KATAS ng SAUDI
5 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
6 ENTENG KABISOTE 4
7 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9
8 ENTENG KABISOTE 4

PIONEER

1 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9
2 BAHAY KUBO
3 KATAS ng SAUDI
4 RESIKLO

STA. ROSA

1 RESIKLO
2 BAHAY KUBO
3 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
4 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9
5 ENTENG KABISOTE 4

LIPA

1 ENTENG KABISOTE 4
2 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
3 BAHAY KUBO
4 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9
5 RESIKLO

DASMARIÑAS

1 RESIKLO
2 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
3 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9
4 ENTENG KABISOTE 4
5 BAHAY KUBO

IMUS

1 RESIKLO
2 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9
3 BAHAY KUBO
4 KATAS ng SAUDI
5 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
6 ENTENG KABISOTE 4

ANGELES

1 RESIKLO
2 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
3 ENTENG KABISOTE 4
4 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9

TARLAC

1 RESIKLO
2 ENTENG KABISOTE 4
3 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9

STARMILLS

1 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9
2 BAHAY KUBO
3 KATAS ng SAUDI
4 SAKAL SAKALI SAKALO
5 RESIKLO
6 ENTENG KABISOTE 4

BACOLOD

1 BAHAY KUBO
2 SAKAL SAKALI SAKALO
3 RESIKLO
4 ENTENG KABISOTE 4
5 KATAS ng SAUDI
6 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9

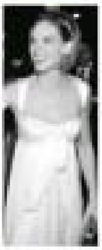
ILOILO

1 RESIKLO
2 SHAKE RATTLE and ROLL 9
3 BAHAY KUBO
4 KATAS ng SAUDI
5 SAKAL SAKALI SAKLOLO
6 ENTENG KABISOTE 4

Red Carpet



AUSTRALIAN actors Cate Blanchett, left, and Hugo Weaving at the premiere of "Blackbird," Dec. 20, at the Sydney Theatre Company. It was Blanchett's directorial debut for a full-length production.



HILARY Swank at the premiere of "PS I Love You" in Dublin, Dec. 19.



WILL Smith at the London premiere of his latest film, "I am Legend," Dec. 19.



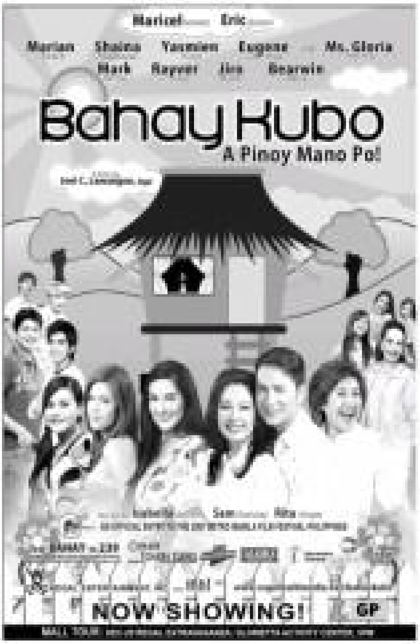
JACK Nicholson at the "The Bucket List" Hollywood premiere, Dec. 16.

Stars For Others

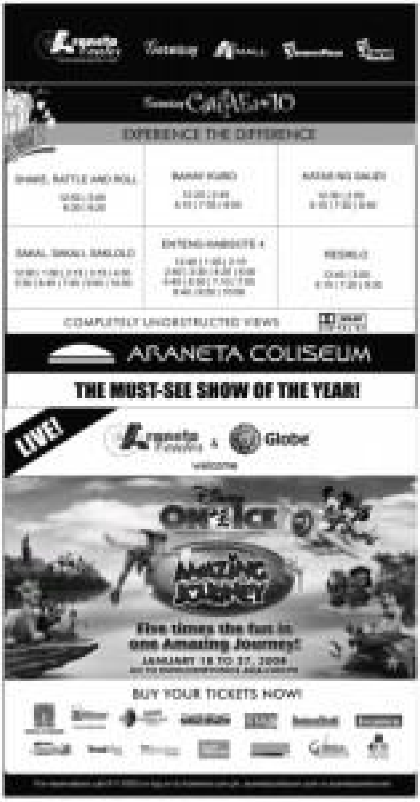




ACTORS Jennifer Love Hewitt and Rose McGowan, top, and Michael Rapaport and his son, above, serve Christmas meals to the homeless at the LA Mission in downtown Los Angeles, California.











A visit before the breakup



Out of the Closet

Singer Rachelle Ann Go's home is filled with reminders of her ex-boyfriend, Christian Bautista.













JEWELRY

SCENTS

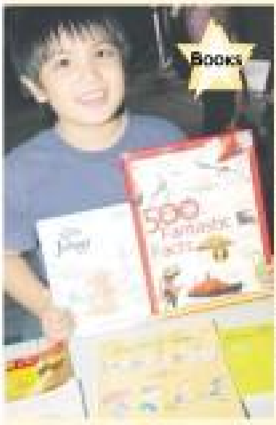
BAGS

SHOES

ACCESSORIES

GOWNS, DRESSES

JEANS



Books

JM REYES of 'Zaido'



Tail Tales

MARK BAUTISTA